

# THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN

OF THE

BELFAST DISTRICT

## HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE,

OF THE

COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND DOWN AND THE COUNTY OF  
THE TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS,

FROM 1st APRIL, 1866, TO 31st MARCH, 1867.

[ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO BE PRINTED.]

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ESTABLISHED 1829.

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BELFAST :

PRINTED AT THE DAILY "NORTHERN WHIG" OFFICE,  
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1867.



# C O N T E N T S .

	TABLE.	PAGE.
Accommodation, ... ..	...	15
Additional Land, ... ..	...	16
Admissions and Discharges from each County, ...	18	21
Ages of the Patients Admitted during the year, ...	2	8
Ages of Patients Discharged Recovered during the year, ...	9	10
Ages of Patients who Died during the year, ...	11	10
Ages of the Patients remaining under treatment, ...	20	22
Alleged Causes of Insanity in the year's Admissions, ...	3	8
Articles manufactured by the Patients during the year, ...	22	22
Attendants, Increase in the wages of, ... ..	...	20
Conclusion, ... ..	...	20
Conference of Governors with the Guardians of the Belfast Union Workhouse, ... ..	...	19
Deaths during the year, ... ..	...	14
Deaths of Governors, ... ..	...	17
Dietary Scale, ... ..	...	38
Duration of Residence of Patients, ... ..	21	22
Duration of Disease in the Discharged, &c., Cases during the year, ... ..	12	11
Education, degree of, in the year's Admissions, ...	8	10
Employment during the year, ... ..	13	11
Farm and Garden Expenditure and Produce, ...	...	37
Financial Statement, ... ..	...	36
Forms of Disease in Patients Admitted during the year, ...	4	8
Forms of Disease of total number in House, ...	14	11
General Statement of year's Admissions, ... ..	1	7
General Health, ... ..	...	14
Improvements, ... ..	...	16
List of Reports received during the year, ... ..	...	39
Meetings and Attendance of Governors, ... ..	...	18
New Governors, ... ..	...	19
Number of Cases Admitted, &c., and who Died in each Quarter and Month during the year, ... ..	23	23
Obituary for the year ending 31st March, 1867, ...	17	13
Occupations of the Patients Admitted during the year, ...	7	9
Official Inspections, ... ..	...	16
Per-centage of Discharges, &c., for last ten years, ...	19	21
Period of time, &c., the Patients Discharged Recovered were under treatment during the year, ... ..	10	10
Religion of the Patients Admitted during the year, ...	5	9
Religious Persuasions of Patients remaining on 31st March, 1867, ... ..	16	12
Social Condition of Patients Admitted during the year, ...	6	9
State of Cases remaining on 31st March, 1867, ...	15	12
Suicidal and Homicidal Cases, ... ..	...	15
The County Down New Hospital for the Insane, ...	...	15

## A P P E N D I X .

Insane Patients in Belfast Union Workhouse—Con- ference of the Governors with a Committee of the Poor-law Guardians, ... ..	24
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# GOVERNORS

OF

## The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,


APPOINTED BY

THE LORD LIEUTENANT AND PRIVY COUNCIL OF IRELAND.

No.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
1	The Marquis of Donegal, .. ..	London, .. ..	March, 1829
2	The Mayor of Belfast, .. ..	Belfast, .. ..	March, 1829
3	The Ven. Archden. Hincks, A.M.,	Bushmills, .. ..	March, 1829
4	Robt. J. Tennent, Esq., J.P., D.L.,	Rushpark, Belfast, .. ..	Jan., 1836
5	The Very Rev. Dean Stannus, ..	Lisburn, .. ..	April, 1842
6	The Rev. H. Cooke, D.D., LL.D.,..	Belfast, .. ..	April, 1842
7	The Rev. J. S. B. Monsell, A.M.,		July, 1842
8	Conway B. Grimshaw, Esq., ..	Sydenham, Belfast, .. ..	Oct., 1846
9	The Marquis of Downshire ..	Castle, Hillsborough, .. ..	Nov., 1847
10	John S. Crawford, Esq., J.P., D.L.,	Crawfordsburn, Holywood, ..	Nov., 1847
11	The Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore, .. }	The Palace, Holywood, ..	April, 1850
12	William Dunville, Esq., J.P., ..	Richmond Lodge, Co. Down,..	May, 1851
13	The Rev. T. F. Miller, D.D., ..	The Vicarage, Belfast, ..	Dec., 1851
14	Adam J. Macrory, Esq., .. ..	Duncairn, Belfast, .. ..	June, 1852
15	Lord Dufferin, .. ..	Clandeboyne, Belfast, ..	Dec., 1855
16	Thomas M'Clure, Esq., J.P., D.L.,	Belmont, County Down, ..	Jan., 1856
17	Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P.,..	Seaforde, County Down ..	March, 1862
18	The Right Rev. P. Dorrian, D.D.,	Belfast, .. ..	Sept., 1866
19	Sir E.W. Macnaghten, Bart. D.L.,	Bushmills, .. ..	Oct. 1866
20	Sir Edward Coey, J.P., .. ..	Merville, Belfast, .. ..	Oct. 1866
21	John Young, Esq., J.P., D.L., ..	Galgorm Castle, Ballymena, ..	Oct. 1866
22	H. H. M'Nelle, Esq., J.P., .. ..	Parkmount, Belfast, .. ..	Oct. 1866
23	J. B. Houston, Esq., J.P., D.L.,	Orangefield, Belfast, .. ..	Oct. 1866
24	Viscount Templetown, .. ..	Castle Upton, Templepatrick, ..	Oct. 1866
25	Colonel Adair, F.R.S., D.L., ..	Farm Lodge, Ballymena, ..	Oct. 1866
26	Captain Gray, J.P., D.L., .. ..	Graymount, Belfast, .. ..	March, 1867
27	Sir Thomas Bateson, Bart. M.P.,	Belvoir Park, Belfast,.. ..	March, 1867

*Resident Physician-Superintendent,* .. ROBERT STEWART, M.D.  
*Visiting and Consulting Physician,* .. HENRY M'CORMAC, M.D.  
*Visiting Surgeon, &c.,* .. .. JAMES MOORE, M.D.

STATED MEETINGS OF GOVERNORS ARE HELD ON THE FIRST MONDAY  
 OF EACH MONTH, AT ONE O'CLOCK, P.M.



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# THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

## The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1867.

Table I.—General Statement of the year's Admissions, &c.

	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
In House, on 1st April, 1866,	...	...	...	196	164	360
Admitted since, New Cases,	38	31	69			
Relapses; ...	7	12	19			
	—	—	—	45	43	88
Total under Treatment during the year, ...	...	...	...	241	207	448
Discharged Recovered, ...	30	25	55			
Do., Relieved, ...	13	9	22			
Died, ...	6	7	13			
	—	—	—	49	41	90
Remaining under Treatment on 31st March, 1867,				192	166	358
				Males	Females	Total
The Total Admissions during the year were ...				45	43	88
Do. for the preceding year, ...				38	49	87
Daily Average Number of Patients during the year, ...				...	...	362.91
Do. for the preceding year, ...				...	...	364.75
Per-centage of Recoveries and Relieved on the Average Daily Number under Treatment, ...				...	...	21.21
Do. for the preceding year, ...				...	...	20.56
Do. on year's total Admissions, ...				...	...	24.24
Do. for the preceding year, ...				...	...	23.85
Average per-centage of Deaths on the total Number under Treatment during the year, ...				...	...	2.90
Do. for the preceding year, ...				...	...	3.11
Do. on the Average Daily Number during the year, ...				...	...	3.58
Do. for the preceding year, ...				...	...	3.83
“Dangerous Lunatics” admitted by Warrants of the Lord Lieutenant during the year (as embraced in the year's total Admissions), viz. :—						
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
From County Antrim Jail, ...	0	0	0			
From County Down Jail, ...	3	4	7			
	—	—	—	3	4	7
Average Annual Expense of each Patient for the past } year including every charge, ... }					£19	7 3
Do. for the previous year, ... }					18	2 7
Total Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1867,					7,028	16 8
Do. for the year ended 31st March, 1866,					6,617	5 11
Net Profit on Farm and Garden, ...					£352	10 5

**Table II.—Ages of the 88 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Under 20 years, ...	7	2	9
20 to 30 years, ...	14	10	24
30 to 40 " ...	10	12	22
40 to 50 " ...	5	8	13
50 to 60 " ...	7	5	12
60 to 70 " ...	2	5	7
70 and upwards, ...	0	1	1
TOTALS, ...	45	43	88

**Table III.—Alleged Causes of Insanity in the 88 Cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Bodily Aliments, ...	10	4	14
Child Birth, ...	0	1	1
Disappointed Love, ...	1	5	6
Dyspepsia, ...	1	0	1
Dissipation, ...	1	0	1
Fright, ...	2	4	6
Grief, Disappointment, and Anxiety, ...	4	7	11
Hereditary, ...	5	6	11
Intemperance, ...	6	3	9
Jealousy, ...	0	2	2
Love of Money, ...	1	0	1
Over Study, ...	4	1	5
Puerperal Condition, ...	0	2	2
Religious Excitement, ...	2	1	3
Sun Stroke, ...	1	0	1
Sedentary Habits, ...	2	1	3
Totally Unknown, ...	5	6	11
TOTALS, ...	45	43	88

**Table IV.—Forms of Disease in the 88 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Dementia, ...	1	4	5
Mania, ...	30	33	63
Do. complicated with Epilepsy, ...	3	0	3
Melancholia, ...	6	5	11
Monomania, ...	5	1	6
TOTALS, ...	45	43	88

**Table V.—Religion of the 88 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Baptist, ... ..	0	1	1
Established Church of England and Ireland, ...	14	8	22
Methodists, ... ..	2	3	5
Presbyterian and Protestant Dissenters, ...	19	19	38
Roman Catholics, ... ..	8	12	20
Unitarians, ... ..	2	0	2
TOTALS, ... ..	45	43	88

**Table VI.—Social Condition of the 88 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Married, ... ..	10	11	21
Single, ... ..	31	28	59
Widows and Widowers, ... ..	4	4	8
TOTALS, ... ..	45	43	88

**Table VII.—Occupations of the 88 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Blacksmith, ... ..	1	0	1
Bookbinder, ... ..	1	0	1
Carter, ... ..	1	0	1
Clerk, ... ..	1	0	1
Dressmakers, ... ..	0	4	4
Farmers, ... ..	8	0	8
Gunsmith, ... ..	1	0	1
Housekeepers, ... ..	0	21	21
Labourers and Servants, ... ..	13	10	23
Linen Lappers, ... ..	2	0	2
Land Steward, ... ..	1	0	1
Millworkers, ... ..	0	2	2
Painter, ... ..	1	0	1
Pensioners, ... ..	2	0	2
Sewers, ... ..	0	3	3
Shoemakers, ... ..	3	0	3
Student, ... ..	1	0	1
Surgeon, ... ..	1	0	1
Tailor, ... ..	1	0	1
Tinsmith, ... ..	1	0	1
Teachers, ... ..	2	1	3
Watchmaker, ... ..	1	0	1
Weavers, ... ..	2	1	3
Without any Occupation, ... ..	1	1	2
TOTALS, ... ..	45	43	88

**Table VIII.—Degree of Education in the 88 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
No Education, ... ..	2	5	7
Read only, ... ..	7	10	17
Read and Write, ... ..	30	27	57
Well Educated, ... ..	6	1	7
TOTALS, ... ..	45	43	88

**Table IX.—Ages of the 55 Patients Discharged Recovered during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
From 10 to 20 years, .. ..	2	0	2
“ 20 to 30 “ .. ..	9	7	16
“ 30 to 40 “ .. ..	7	8	15
“ 40 to 50 “ .. ..	8	5	13
“ 50 to 60 “ .. ..	1	3	4
“ 60 to 70 “ .. ..	3	2	5
TOTALS, ... ..	30	25	55

**Table X —Shewing the period of time the 55 Patients Discharged Recovered were under treatment, during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Under 3 months, ... ..	1	1	2
From 3 to 6 months, ... ..	13	11	24
“ 6 to 12 “ ... ..	10	7	17
“ 1 to 2 years, ... ..	4	4	8
“ 5 to 10 “ ... ..	2	2	4
TOTALS, ... ..	30	25	55

**Table XI.—Ages of the 13 Patients who Died during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
From 20 to 30 years, ... ..	1	1	2
“ 30 to 40 “ .. ..	3	2	5
“ 40 to 50 “ .. ..	2	1	3
“ 50 to 60 “ .. ..	0	1	1
“ 60 to 70 “ .. ..	0	2	2
TOTALS, ... ..	6	7	13

**Table XII.—Shewing the Duration of Disease in the 90 Patients Discharged Recovered, Relieved, and who Died, during the year ended March 31st, 1867.**

DURATION OF DISEASE.	RECOVERED AND RELIEVED.			DIED.		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 3 months, ...	3	3	6	1	1	2
From 3 to 6 months, ...	10	10	20	1	0	1
“ 6 to 12 months, ...	10	11	21	0	0	0
“ 1 to 2 years, ...	8	2	10	0	1	1
“ 2 to 5 “ ...	5	1	6	1	0	1
“ 5 to 10 “ ...	4	7	11	2	2	4
“ 10 to 20 “ ...	1	0	1	1	1	2
“ 20 to 30 “ ...	0	0	0	0	2	2
TOTALS, ...	43	34	77	6	7	13

**Table XIII.—Employment during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Assisting Servants, ...	14	14	28
Basket Making, ...	1	0	1
Breaking Freestone, ..	2	0	2
Breaking Stones,...	3	0	3
Cultivating the Farm, ...	70	0	70
Embroidering, ...	0	1	1
Gardening Labour, ...	5	0	5
Knitting, ...	1	19	20
Making and Repairing Clothing, Bedding, &c.,	4	19	23
Making and Repairing Shoes, ...	2	0	2
Pumping Water,...	30	0	30
Smith Work, ...	1	0	1
Spinning, ...	0	18	18
Sweeping Yards, Carrying Coals, &c., ...	30	0	30
Tailoring, ...	3	0	3
Washing in Laundry, ...	3	22	25
Warping, Weaving, and Winding, ...	9	0	9
TOTALS,...	178	93	271

**Table XIV.—Forms of Disease of the Total Number of Patients remaining on 31st March, 1867.**

	Males	Females	Total
Dementia, ...	7	3	10
Mania, ...	127	115	242
Do. Complicated with Epilepsy, ...	13	7	20
Melancholia, ...	23	21	44
Monomania, ...	22	20	42
TOTALS, ...	192	166	358

Table XV.—Shewing the state of the Cases remaining on 31st March, 1867.

	Males	Females	Total
Chronic Cases, ... ..	96	84	180
Probably Curable Cases, ... ..	96	82	178
TOTALS, ... ..	192	166	358

Table XVI.—Shewing the Religious Persuasions of the 358 Patients remaining on the 31st March, 1867.

	Males	Females	Total
Baptists, ... ..	0	1	1
Covenanters, ... ..	3	0	3
Established Church of England and Ireland,...	46	45	91
Methodists, ... ..	2	5	7
Presbyterians, .. ...	84	51	135
Roman Catholics, ... ..	56	64	120
Unitarians, ... ..	1	0	1
TOTALS, ... ..	192	166	358

Table XVII.—Obituary for the year ended 31st March, 1867.

No.	Sex.	Age.	Form of Insanity. Alleged Exciting Cause. Any Mental Improvement.	Social State.	Occupation.	Period an Inmate.			Cause of Death.
						Yrs.	Mos.	Wks. Days.	
1	F.	67	{ Mania—Matrimonial Disap- pointment—None. }	Single.	Spinner.	22	5	1 3	Maniacal Exhaustion.
2	F.	24	Mania—Epilepsy—None.	Single.	Weaver.	1	2	2 0	Epilepsy.
3	F.	59	Mania—Seduction—None.	Single.	Sewer.	23	11	0 2	Chronic Phthisis.
4	M.	27	Mania—Epilepsy—None.	Single.	None.	9	4	0 6	Epilepsy.
5	M.	39	Dementia—Epilepsy—None.	Single.	Shoemaker.	13	4	2 6	Epilepsy.
6	M.	47	{ Mania—Cerebral Disease— None. }	Married.	Labourer.	0	3	2 2	Cerebral Disease.
7	F.	49	{ Mania—Ill-treatment of Hus- band—None. }	Married.	None.	10	10	2 2	{ Maniacal Exhaustion, super- vening on convulsive at- tacks.
8	M.	30	Mania—Unknown—None.	Single.	Labourer.	6	6	4 1	Chronic Phthisis.
9	M.	48	Mania—Intemperance—None.	Married.	Tinsmith.	0	0	2 2	Paralysis.
10	F.	60	Mania—Unknown—None.	Single.	Servant.	0	0	2 5	Maniacal and General De- bility.
11	M.	31	Mania—Unknown—Partial.	Single.	Labourer.	4	0	2 6	Chronic Phthisis.
12	F.	32	Mania—Jealousy—None.	Single.	Flowerer.	6	10	3 3	Mania, complicated with Pul- monary Disease.
13	F.	31	Mania—Grief—None.	Single.	None.	6	3	3 4	Chronic Phthisis.

## GENERAL HEALTH.

It is very satisfactory being enabled to state that throughout the entire year just terminated the health that prevailed amongst the inmates was remarkably good. Even during the appearance of epidemic cholera last autumn outside, not only was there no outbreak of it here, but cases of English cholera were comparatively few, and those of a character which, being immediately attended to, soon yielded to ordinary treatment.

Taking, therefore, into consideration the continued crowded state of the House, this immunity from serious illness of any kind is a matter of great thankfulness.

## DEATHS.

Last year's mortality was considerably below what is usual amongst the insane, even under the most favourable hygienic conditions. This year's is equally so ; indeed, one casualty less, the total deaths now to be reported being but thirteen, and for the preceding year fourteen. Six of the thirteen were males, and seven females, and the causes of death were—Pulmonary disease, five (two males, three females), Epilepsy, four (two males, two females), Maniacal Exhaustion, two (females), Paralysis, one (male), Cerebral congestion, one (male). As to duration of time of the deceased in the Institution, one (female) had been twenty-four years nearly an inmate ; another of the same sex upwards of twenty-two years ; one (male) thirteen years and upwards ; one (female) eleven years nearly ; one (male) nine years ; one (female) seven years nearly ; one (male) and one (female) upwards of six years each ; one (male) four years ; one (female) fourteen and a-half months ; one (male) three and a-half months ; and one (male) sixteen days only, having been completely prostrated before admission, from intemperance, resulting in mania, complicated with paralysis, but still violent and destructive to the last. The oldest in this list was sixty-seven years (female), and the youngest twenty-four (female). The oldest male was forty-eight years, and the youngest twenty-seven. The average age of the males was thirty-seven years, and that of the females forty-six years ; the average age of all forty-two years nearly.

## SUICIDAL AND HOMICIDAL CASES.

As heretofore, the cases amongst the admissions of the year presenting one or both of the above tendencies prior to coming under treatment (and which add so largely to the constantly anxious duties of these Institutions), were not few ; nineteen in all, six males and thirteen females. Happily, however, no casualty from either cause occurred here during the year, but which required the most unremitting watchfulness to prevent. The following were the previous attempts made at home, &c., by the above :—Four (one male and three females), attempted to strangle themselves ; three (one male and two females), attempted to drown themselves ; one (male) cut his throat ; one (male) attempted to poison his parents ; two (males) were homicidally disposed ; one (female), attempted precipitation from a window ; one (female), attempted to beat her brains out against a wall ; three (females), attempted to hang themselves, one nearly succeeding in doing so ; two (females), tried to choke themselves by forcing foreign bodies down their throats ; one (female), strongly homicidally disposed.

## ACCOMMODATION.

The same difficulties in the way of accommodation as have been existing for some time past were in as active operation during the year now terminated as hitherto. Still, at every risk of over-crowding, and all the embarrassment therewith connected, inseparable from such peculiarly circumstanced Institutions as those for the treatment of insanity necessarily are, no case of great urgency was delayed in obtaining almost immediate admission, on the requisite formalities being fulfilled ; and at the present time the outstanding cases in ordinary are not more than four, all of whom it is expected will be enabled to be admitted very shortly.

THE NEW HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE AT DOWNPATRICK,  
FOR THE COUNTY OF DOWN.

At what period this new and anxiously looked for Institution will be in readiness to receive patients cannot be exactly

reckoned upon. In last year's Report it was stated that in two years, possibly, it might be finished ; but from all that can be learned of the advance since made towards its completion, and what yet remains to be accomplished in its material structure, there appears little probability of its being in operation for two years more, at all events, from the present time.

#### ADDITIONAL LAND.

The proposed addition to the grounds of four acres between this and town has not yet been finally concluded. Various unforeseen difficulties from time to time have arisen to prevent this consummation ; however, all would now appear to be in a fair way of a satisfactory settlement, and the land in question soon be the property of the Institution accordingly.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

Some time since the erection of a green-house was approved of, as being a most desirable and necessary addition, for the propagation of plants for furnishing the corridors with geraniums, &c., besides being a source of elevating pleasure to the patients ; but, owing to repeated delays on the part of the contractors, no active steps were taken for having it built until within the last few months, thus causing much disappointment. Now, however, it is so far advanced as to afford reasonable hope that it will be shortly in full operation, and so be both ornamental and useful, and a means of affording no small gratification to the whole establishment, besides taking so far from the monotony necessarily part and parcel of such establishments as these.

#### OFFICIAL INSPECTIONS.

"I have to report in most favourable terms of the condition of the Belfast District Asylum on my inspection of it. Its various departments are in every way satisfactory, and the patients duly attended to. Of the total number under treatment (371), three only are in Hospital, than which fact, in a sanitary point of view, nothing can be more gratifying, particularly too at this season, when diarrhoea is so prevalent. As from pressure

the beds in the Hospital, both male and female, are occupied by healthy patients, should the slightest indication of Cholera manifest itself, a day room at either side of the house should be converted into a dormitory, and one of the broad corridors converted into a temporary day-room. Too much attention cannot just now be paid to the dietetic arrangements of the House, and for this object a circular has been issued from the office of Hospitals for the Insane. With reference to the *vexata quæstio* of additional land, I have written a separate memorandum for the consideration of the Board.

“(Signed)

“J. NUGENT.

“4th August, 1866.”

“I, this day, attended the Board of Governors by request, to consult with them in reference to the purchase of additional land, as recommended by me some time ago. I fully concur in the resolution arrived at, that it is expedient that the ground in question should be taken as speedily as possible. On inspection of the establishment, I find it in every respect most satisfactory. No doubt, the house is at present overcrowded; but, owing to the great pressure on it, and until the opening of the Asylum at Downpatrick, it must continue so. The patients, 361 in the aggregate, between males and females, as a body, are remarkably healthy, four only being confined to bed by illness, and none under restraint of any description. The day-rooms, dormitories, and corridors, at the female side particularly, are kept with the greatest regard to order and neatness. In fact, the management of the Institution leaves little to be desired, so far as the creature comfort of the inmates is concerned, in a physical point of view, while outside occupation and amusements are afforded them, and within doors music, books, &c.

“The question of an increase to the wages of the attendants being mooted at the Board, I have requested Dr. Stewart to submit, at the next meeting, an improved scale, and one commensurate with their onerous duties. I examined the books, &c., which are all regularly kept, and the provisions which were of good quality.

“(Signed)

“J. NUGENT.

“4th June, 1866.”

#### DEATHS OF GOVERNORS.

Since last year two removals by death from the list of Governors have unhappily to be recorded here—that of the Right Rev. Dr. Denvir in July, and the Rev. Dr. Edgar in August. Both had been members of the Board the same lengthened period of time, namely, thirty years; during the

entire of which the attendance of each was most regular, and the liveliest interest taken by both in the welfare of the Institution. It is needless here to state how much and greatly their removal has been felt and regretted by all connected with the immediate conduct of the establishment, their presence always having been looked forward to with pleasure from their kindness and urbanity of bearing towards all, and their readiness to promote in every possible way the benevolent and harmonious action of the Institution. Annexed are the resolutions of condolence of the Board in connexion with the decease of each :—

Moved by JOHN SHARMAN CRAWFORD, Esq., seconded by CONWAY B. GRIMSHAW, Esq., and

*Resolved unanimously*—“That inasmuch as, since the last meeting of this Board, the death of the late Right Rev. Dr. Denvir has occurred, the Governors take this, the earliest opportunity, of placing upon their proceedings the expression of their sincere and great regret at his removal from their body, he having been associated with them since 1836, and always during that lengthened period taking the warmest and most lively interest in furthering the benevolent objects of the Institution, by his regular attendance, valuable counsel, and mature experience in all matters affecting its prosperity and increased usefulness.”

Moved by THOMAS M'CLURE, Esq., seconded by WILLIAM DUNVILLE, Esq., and

*Resolved unanimously*—“That the painful duty now devolved upon the Board of Governors, by reason of having so immediately again to record on their minutes the removal of another of their most esteemed and zealous fellow members by the late much lamented death of the Rev. Dr. Edgar, has caused them unaffected concern.

“That the prolonged period of thirty years, during which the deceased occupied a place at the Board, the unfailing and warm interest he took in every matter affecting the welfare and well-being of this Institution, and of all within its walls, his readiness to afford the benefit of his valuable aid in the promotion of its increased usefulness, and his generally punctual attendance, will make his loss to be felt as a more than ordinary one, and long to be regretted by all the establishment.”

#### MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE OF THE GOVERNORS.

The stated monthly meetings of the Board during the year had an average attendance of seven nearly, three constituting

a quorum. Annexed are the names and attendance of those who were present :—C. B. Grimshaw, Esq. (12), Thomas M'Clure, Esq. (11), A. J. Macrory, Esq. (8), The Rev. Dr. Cooke (7), John Sharman Crawford, Esq. (7), William Dunville, Esq. (7), The Mayor of Belfast (Wm. Mullan, Esq.) (6), The Right Rev. Dr. Dorrian (6), The Lord Bishop of Down (5), J. B. Houston, Esq. (5), Sir Edward Coey (4), Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P. (3), Viscount Templetown (3), H. H. M'Neile, Esq., (3), The late Right Rev. Dr. Denvir (2), The Very Rev. Dean Stannus (2), John Young, Esq. (1), Captain Gray (1).

#### CONFERENCE OF GOVERNORS WITH THE GUARDIANS OF THE BELFAST UNION WORKHOUSE.

At the special request of the Guardians of the above-mentioned Workhouse, a meeting took place in November last, in the Town Hall, of the Governors and Guardians, with the presence also of Dr. Nugent, to confer on the best means of improving the condition of the large number of insane inmates in the Workhouse. Much discussion took place at this meeting, and several suggestions were made in connexion with its benevolent and important object ; but inasmuch as the Guardians had not finally decided amongst themselves any particular course of procedure to take the opinion of the Governors upon, the meeting did not arrive at any definite result, and adjourned accordingly *sine die*. Appended are the proceedings which took place at the meeting in question.

#### NEW GOVERNORS.

Lately an addition has been made by the Lord Lieutenant and Council of Ireland of ten new Governors, several vacancies having taken place within the last few years, and those whose attendance could be reckoned on became so considerably reduced as often to make the presence of a quorum by no means a certainty. Now, however, all apprehension of a paucity of attendance has been, it is to be hoped, removed. The following are

the names of the new Governors:—Right Rev. P. Dorrian, D.D.; Sir E. W. Macnaughten, Bart., D.L. ; Sir Edward Coey, J.P., High Sheriff County of Antrim ; John Young, Esq., J.P., D.L. ; H. H. M'Neile, Esq., J.P. ; J. B. Houston, Esq., J.P., D.L. ; Viscount Templetown ; Colonel Adair, F.R.S., D.L. ; Captain Gray, J.P., D.L. ; Sir Thomas Bateson, Bart., M.P.

#### INCREASE IN THE WAGES OF THE ATTENDANTS.

During the past year the Board took into special consideration the propriety of a reasonable addition being made to the wages of the attendants and domestics generally of the Institution, which resulted in such an increase being made as was only commensurate with the important and arduous duties that devolve upon them, and at the same time to stimulate each in a continued efficient discharge thereof. It is but just to add that they have fully appreciated this act of liberality on the part of the Governors, and that, as a body, the manner in which they acquit themselves of their respective trusts, is deserving of the highest commendation.

#### CONCLUSION.

The Resident-Physician always gladly avails himself of a stated occasion like the present to express his best thanks to the Governors for the continued support they have so freely afforded him in fulfilling a trust at all times difficult and onerous in its performance, but which, however, is thus considerably relieved of its serious responsibility and unceasing anxiety.

ROBERT STEWART, M.D.,

Resident Physician-Superintendent.

# GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS.

**Table XVIII.—Shewing the Admissions, Discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the year ended 31st March, 1867.**

ADMITTED FROM EACH COUNTY.							
					Males	Females	Total
Antrim,	...	...	...	...	26	17	43
County of the Town of Carrickfergus,	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Down, ...	...	...	...	...	19	26	45
TOTALS,					45	43	88

DISCHARGED, ETC., TO EACH COUNTY.							
					Males	Females	Total
Antrim,	...	...	...	...	28	25	53
County of the Town of Carrickfergus,	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Down, ...	...	...	...	...	20	16	36
TOTALS,					49	41	90

REMAINING IN THE HOUSE, 31st MARCH, 1867.							
					Males	Females	Total
Antrim,	...	...	...	...	98	84	182
County of the Town of Carrickfergus,	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Down, ...	...	...	...	...	90	79	169
TOTALS,					192	166	358

**Table XIX.—Shewing the Per Centage of Discharges and Deaths, and the Average Per Centage calculated on the Average Number of Patients for Ten Years ended 31st March, 1867.**

Years ending 31st March.	Yearly Average Number.	RECOVERED.		RELIEVED.		DIED.	
		No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.
1858	342.59	82	23.93	26	7.58	25	7.29
1859	347.20	65	18.17	18	5.18	18	5.18
1860	358.97	75	20.89	22	6.12	25	6.96
1861	356.98	47	13.16	31	8.68	22	6.16
1862	359.50	73	23.05	21	5.08	19	5.02
1863	362.90	59	16.25	10	2.75	14	3.85
1864	366.02	52	14.20	19	5.24	12	3.27
1865	364.51	68	18.65	23	6.30	22	6.03
1866	364.75	57	15.62	10	5.20	14	3.83
1867	362.91	55	15.15	22	6.06	13	3.58

Table XX.—Ages of the Patients remaining on 31st March, 1867.

	Males.	Females	Total
Under 20 years, ... ..	6	3	9
From 20 to 30 years, ... ..	31	31	62
“ 30 to 40 “ ... ..	51	44	95
“ 40 to 50 “ ... ..	50	44	94
“ 50 to 60 “ ... ..	30	26	56
“ 60 to 70 “ ... ..	22	16	38
“ 70 to 80 “ ... ..	2	2	4
TOTALS, ... ..	192	166	358

Table XXI.—Shewing the Duration of Residence of the 358 Patients remaining under Treatment, 31st March, 1867.

	Males	Females	Total.
From 1 to 2 months, ... ..	5	5	10
“ 2 to 3 “ .. ...	5	5	10
“ 3 to 6 “ ... ..	9	8	17
“ 6 to 9 “ ... ..	4	7	11
“ 9 months to 1 year, ... ..	4	7	11
“ 1 year to 18 months, ... ..	9	12	21
“ 18 months to 2 years, ... ..	6	13	19
“ 2 years to 4 years, ... ..	22	17	39
“ 4 “ to 6 “ ... ..	13	29	42
“ 6 “ to 10 “ ... ..	28	19	47
“ 10 “ to 15 “ ... ..	41	18	59
“ 15 “ to 20 “ ... ..	12	15	27
“ 20 “ to 25 “ ... ..	11	3	14
“ 25 “ to 30 “ ... ..	11	6	17
“ 30 “ and upwards, ... ..	12	2	14
TOTALS, ... ..	192	166	358

Table XXII.—Shewing the Articles Manufactured and made by the Patients during the year ended 31st March, 1867.

1,831 Hanks Linen Yarn.	124 Day Caps.
1,423 Yards Plain Linen.	36 Bolsters.
442 Pairs Stockings and Socks	36 Bed Ticks.
189 Sheets.	93 Gowns.
290 Shirts.	228 Pillow Slips.
160 Shifts.	157 Patients' Beds Painted.
128 Aprons.	27 Outer Doors, Water Barls.,
98 Petticoats.	Tubs, &c., Painted during
36 Wrappers.	the year.

Table XXIII.—Shewing the Number of Cases Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, and who Died in each Quarter and each Month, respectively, during the Year ended 31st March, 1867.

	ADMITTED.			DISCHARGED.						DIED.		
				RECOVERED.			RELIEVED.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
April, .....	4	2	6	2	2	4	3	1	4	0	2	2
May,.....	1	7	8	2	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
June,.....	9	4	13	3	2	5	1	0	1	0	0	0
			—27			—14			—5			—2
July,.....	4	4	8	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
August,....	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
September,	4	5	9	10	5	15	1	0	1	3	0	3
			—19			—18			—1			—4
October,....	2	2	4	0	2	2	1	3	4	0	1	1
November,.	10	3	13	5	2	7	0	0	0	1	0	1
December,.	2	7	9	3	4	7	4	3	7	1	0	1
			—26			—16			—11			—3
January,....	3	2	5	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
February,..	3	2	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
March.....	4	2	6	2	3	5	3	2	5	0	1	1
			—16			—7			—5			—4
	46	42	88	30	25	55	13	9	22	6	7	13

## A P P E N D I X.

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### INSANE PATIENTS IN BELFAST UNION WORKHOUSE—CONFERENCE OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT INSANE HOSPITAL WITH A COMMITTEE OF THE POOR-LAW GUARDIANS.

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On Monday, 19th November, 1866, at one o'clock, a meeting was held in the Town Hall for the purpose of considering the best means of affording accommodation to the Insane at present in the Belfast Workhouse. The meeting consisted of the Governors of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane and a Committee of the Belfast Poor-law Guardians, the latter having requested the former gentlemen to meet and confer with them on the subject. The following Governors and Officials of the District Hospital were present :—The MAYOR (William Mullan, Esq.) in the chair ; Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore ; Rev. Dr. Dorrian, Roman Catholic Bishop ; Dr. Nugent, Commissioner of Lunacy ; Dr. Stewart, Physician-Superintendent Belfast Insane Hospital ; John S. Crawford, Esq., D.L., J.P. ; Thos. M'Clure, Esq., D.L., J.P. ; Sir Edward Coey ; A. J. Macrory, Esq. ; J. B. Houston, Esq., and C. B. Grimshaw, Esq. The Guardians present were—David Taylor, Esq., J.P., Chairman Board of Guardians ; John Suffern, Esq., Vice-Chairman ; Dr. Knox, Poor-law Inspector ; Dr. M'Gee, J.P. ; R. Corry, Thomas Gaffikin, R. Boag, Samuel Teirney, John Hamill, and James Entwistle, Esqrs.

The MAYOR announced the object of the meeting, and then called upon

Dr. STEWART, who read the correspondence which had passed between the Governors and the Guardians as to how accommodation could be found for the insane at present in the Workhouse ; and also the resolution requesting the Governors to meet the Guardians that day at a conference.

Mr. TAYLOR, as Chairman of the Board of Guardians, said he would in a very few words state why the Guardians had asked

for this conference. For some years past the Guardians had been at considerable expense in enlarging the wards for the accommodation of lunatics, but now these wards were quite overcrowded from the number that had been received into the house. The Guardians held a meeting to make arrangements for the wants of this class ; and they gave it as their opinion that the Workhouse was no place for the insane, and that jails were still worse. They, however, thought it desirable to request a meeting of the Governors of the Asylum to consider whether some plan should not be adopted to remedy what was a great want. On Saturday last, at a meeting of the Guardians, a resolution was come to setting forth that the Workhouse was unfit for such inmates. He quite concurred with that opinion. The Guardians thought that they should either have the present Asylum enlarged, or have a separate establishment provided to meet the requirements of the case.

Mr. SUFFERN said Mr. Taylor had stated, as a point of fact, what they as Guardians had done regarding the insane in the Workhouse. He might state that in going through the house, as the Guardians were in the habit of doing, and in looking at the wants of the Workhouse from time to time, it pressed upon the minds of the Guardians that, although they should give accommodation to those afflicted people, it was not really the place for them to be in a Workhouse. Latterly space was required, and the subject was again pressed on their consideration. They got plans prepared for the purpose of giving further accommodation for this class of inmates. The meeting at which this was done was composed of those who had taken an active part in looking after the affairs of the Workhouse. They had also some Governors who took an interest in the matter as *ex-officio* Guardians. They were about to make a report on that subject, when the questions stared them in the face that, even if they did give additional accommodation, was that the place suitable?—was that the place where they should be?—was there care sufficient for them there?—was there curative or medical aid enough there?—were there trained officers there for looking after those poor people in the Workhouse?—and they were unanimously of opinion that they would not be doing their duty un-

less they (the Guardians) got some better place for them—a place that they, as an enlightened community, were entitled to give them. (Hear, hear.) The result was that they considered that they should ask for a conference with the Governors of the Asylum—those who had studied the matter—and a practical person like Dr. Stewart, the superintendent of the Belfast Asylum—one of the best managed Asylums in Ireland. They believed that some good would result from that conference. There were now ninety-seven of the insane in the house, and fifty-nine idiots—156 altogether. That was a large number, and the Guardians considered they were not doing their duty by that class unless they got sufficient training, and also curative remedies provided. They, as Guardians, wished to state that they had done their utmost. As far as good food was concerned, as far as superintendence was concerned, as far as careful and kind treatment was concerned, and as far as the comforts of good clothing was concerned, there was nothing wanting in the Workhouse. They had been far from illiberal in the means which the ratepayers had placed at their disposal. They had placed over them eminent medical men, and seen that they were carefully treated, but still they had not the means to ensure that this was a place for the cure of the insane ; because they ought always to take it that insanity was not incurable. On this principle the Guardians thought that they should be removed to an Asylum, where they could get those appliances which the Guardians had not the power to afford. Their object was merely to break the ground that day. As to the question whether the Workhouse was a place suitable for keeping the insane he thought he could give the meeting some authority on the subject. He would refer the Governors to documents prepared by themselves for supporting the observations which he had made. One was a report of their own body in 1861, when they were desirous of having a change for further accommodation in their Institution, by having an enlargement or a separate establishment, or have one for the County Down and one for the County Antrim. The question was solved by the erection of one in County Down, which was now being built, and would soon be ready. The

patients that would be supported there would relieve the duty of the Belfast Governors to some extent. Mr. Suffern then referred to the Report of the Lunacy Commissioners of Scotland to the Irish Commissioners' Report of 1858, and also to the Irish Commissioners' Report of 1859. All these reports agreed in condemning lunatic wards in Workhouses. He thought he had proved that Workhouses, as at present constituted, were no place in which lunatics should be confined. It was stated by the Commissioners that the reason of this was, because the Workhouses had not got trained officers, such men as might effect a change in the mental aberrations of the lunatic. Now, what he would propose was this :—There was in the Lunatic Asylum a staff trained to the treatment of lunatics. He understood they had an area of fifty acres of ground for the Belfast Asylum. They (the Guardians) would propose that the Asylum should be so enlarged as to take from the Workhouse the lunatics confined there, and in that way to secure proper medical care and training for them, and to have cures effected, or try what could be done. There were 363 lunatics at present in the Asylum, and this number might by some be considered sufficient to have in one establishment. That would appear at the outset not to be an exceedingly tenable position, because, on again referring to this most valuable report, which was prepared by their body (the Governors)—a report of the conference with the Grand Juries of Antrim and Down—he found that in the observations made by Mr. Macrory—which he (Mr. Suffern) would like to have seen more fully reported in the report—he had gone very particularly into this subject ; and he (Mr. Suffern) would just mention the number considered as sufficient for one Asylum, as suggested to Mr. Macrory by Lord Shaftesbury, the Chairman of the Commissioners of Lunacy in England. His lordship said they were opposed to anything above 500 or 600 in the one establishment. In one Asylum they had some 1,300. It was thus laid down that there would be no objection to have 500 or 600. As the Belfast Asylum is at present constituted, it would require very few additional officers to manage the Asylum with the increased number. If the 156 in the Workhouse were added to the number at present in the Asylum, there would be

but 510 ; so he took it that that would not be an excessive number.

Dr. NUGENT—You forget that all the Workhouses of the district would have the same right. What would you do with the whole of them, as well as those that come from the jails? (Hear.)

Mr. SUFFERN said he merely wished that some local effort should be made for the present. Afterwards they might be able to find what could be done regarding the other Workhouses.

The MAYOR—I was glad to hear Mr. Suffern say that something might be done in a local way. I saw a smile of satisfaction around the whole room at the mention of it. I would like to hear what could be done locally. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. SUFFERN then said that he thought the amount of expenditure in the Asylum might enable the Governors to keep even more inmates than they had—at least with very little assistance. The Government had always been liberal to Ireland in regard to these Asylums. They had given the Belfast Asylum a loan for fourteen years, and perhaps in this case they might also be able to get a loan. He thought that an arrangement might be made by which those who were idiots might be kept in the Workhouse, and those who were insane transferred to the Asylum. As to the expenses, the Guardians would be willing to pay what they could. He was happy to see Dr. Knox present, as he could correct him (Mr. Suffern) if he was in error in what he was about to say. He believed that the Guardians had power, under the Poor-law Acts, to pay per head all that insane patients would cost in any place to which they should send them. In Dublin the insane were sent to the hospitals, and the money paid for them by the Guardians came out of the rates. The Guardians, he thought, had a right to send every one of them to the Lunatic Asylum if they paid what they cost. If the Belfast Governors thought of taking them into their Asylum, they as Guardians would propose to pay what they would cost if the Governors would only provide the accommodation.

Dr. M'GEE said that they need not be surprised by his stating that the opinions laid before the meeting were not the opinions of the Guardians, and he hoped they would not be understood as such (Hear, hear.)

MR. SUFFERN—Well, excuse me for a moment.

DR. M'GEE—Just hear me.

THE MAYOR—I think we had better hear Dr. M'Gee.

DR. M'GEE said he was not present at the last meeting, nor did he believe Mr. Suffern was there. The Guardians merely wished to have the opinion of the Governors as to what course they should take. He did not think it was at all necessary to show that the Workhouse was unsuited to the insane. That was admitted on all hands. There were two plans. One was to use the school building, which was said to be fit to accommodate 1,350 lunatics. Some preferred that only a portion of it should be occupied ; but the majority were for the use of it all. Another plan was the obtaining, if possible, of Larne Union, or Antrim Union, or Lisburn Union, or any other Union where they could get accommodation. There was no difficulty in obtaining proper officers to attend to the insane ; but the Guardians did not believe that the Workhouse was the proper place—that the Asylum was the place. He looked at the project of adapting the school building with no little degree of anxiety, for, although that building might accommodate the insane for some ten or thirteen years, yet the cases were so rapidly increasing that he felt they would be soon overcome again. He thought that the Guardians would agree with him that they should not hold the idiots as mere vegetables, but should endeavor to raise them in the scale of humanity—(hear)—and he thought, from what he had read that it was a thing quite possible. Some of the Guardians were of opinion that, if the school building were used as a temporary expedient, it would be made a permanent one. There was no doubt that they had power to obtain whatever curative treatment for the insane they would require. If they had not, they should have it, and it would only require them to bring the matter before the Board of Commissioners to have it. As to the airing ground at the school building, some thought it sufficient, although he did not ; and as to trainers for the lunatics, they might get such, but they would not be equal to those in Hospitals for the Insane. Then the diet in the Workhouse was much more expensive than it was in the local District Insane Hospital.

The MAYOR—I was of opinion that the Workhouse was much lower than the Asylum.

Dr. M'GEE—It was one of the popular errors.

Mr. TAYLOR said that the cost per head in the Asylum was 2s. 8½d, while in the Workhouse it was 2s. 11d. The lunatics in the Workhouse got what was called infirmary diet.

Mr. T. GAFFIKIN said he was opposed to their taking the school building for the purpose proposed. They did not know how soon they might require the school building in case of an epidemic. They could clear out the hospital in a day into the school building to make room for those suffering from an epidemic. He would propose—"That the lunatic paupers in our house, and in all and every Workhouse in the counties of Antrim and Down, be removed to one separate establishment." Then there was Larne Workhouse which had only about 200 paupers, where they could remove the demented if necessary. The other Workhouses could then take healthy paupers in exchange.

Sir E. COEY—I am afraid that the Guardians of Larne would scarcely be pleased to make the exchange. (A laugh.)

Dr. NUGENT said such an exchange would be utterly out of the question. The insane department differed considerably from the Poor-law department. The insane were supported out of the county rates at large, while the poor were paid out of the rates of electoral divisions. It was, therefore, impossible for a Lunatic Asylum to enter into any arrangement with Guardians in consequence of the differences existing which he had explained.

Mr. GAFFIKIN—Well, we admit them.

Dr. NUGENT said he believed the Guardians were bound to admit all those who were destitute, whether insane or not ; and the question then came up before the Board as to how they should be disposed of.

Mr. TEIRNEY supported the proposition of fitting up the school building for the lunatics. They could there have classification that they had not in the house. His idea in meeting the Governors there that day was to see in how far they would assist the Guardians in having this proposition carried out at once.

Mr. HAMILL said he was sorry to find that there were not two of the Guardians agreed on a single point. He thought they

should have settled upon what course they intended to pursue before meeting the Governors. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. M'CLURE thought there should be a separate establishment for chronic cases. He would not approve of sending any additional numbers to the District Asylum.

Mr. ENTWISTLE said that the District Lunatic Asylum should be adopted generally as a curative hospital. Every individual affected should be made to pass through it, and those that they found were incurable might be transferred to the Workhouse. There was then a class who were able to pay for their maintenance——

Sir E. COEY—This might be a very proper subject at another time and place, but it is not now to the point.

Mr. ENTWISTLE—I want to bring the whole subject before the meeting.

Sir E. COEY—It is a very proper subject at another time.

Mr. ENTWISTLE said he did not think he was out of order in referring to the matter. He concluded by urging the propriety of having all the curables sent to the local district Hospital for the Insane, and the chronic cases kept in the Workhouse.

Dr. NUGENT said it was a fact that no public institutions in Ireland had made the same progress that Insane Hospitals had. About forty years ago there was not accommodation for more than 200 patients, and now they had accommodation for upwards of 6,000. The intention of Hospitals for the Insane was twofold—first, to afford treatment to those who were curable, and the second was to afford shelter to those who might be dangerous to themselves or their fellows ; and if they achieved these objects they would have attained the purposes for which they were founded. Then there were those who were called incurable, or, more properly, chronic, who should receive all the comfort that could be given them. For the last twenty years he had himself done everything he could to ameliorate the condition of the poor ; at the same time he thought that, while doing so, there should be regard to economy. There was no use in spending on that which could accomplish no good. Within the last fifteen years the accommodation in the Belfast Asylum had increased from 180 to 360. In reference to the building of a new ward at

the Asylum, he thought it would be too expensive. They had in the Workhouse about 160, independent of some 100 throughout the district. With the interest on the building, the cost per head would amount to about £27. The present cost was only about £10, so that there would be a difference of about £17. It would take £240,000 a-year to support the Insane poor of Ireland. It was a question whether it would be desirable in those Workhouses that were only half occupied to admit those who were demented and incurable. All that was necessary was to have them well fed, well cared for, given good air, and suitable labor, and then they could be kept for less than in a District Asylum. It occurred to his mind that they could make changes of those who were curable with the Asylum for those who were chronic; but the Asylum could only make changes with the respective unions in the district. If this did not work well at the end of a year or two they would then see what was best to be done. He thought that while they had these inmates they should endeavor to get rid of that horrible system—that if a person who was insane raised his finger against another he was immediately sent to jail. (Hear, hear.) He had often visited the jails, and he could not help but feel ashamed to see persons sent to jail—sent by heartless relatives to end a miserable existence. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. KNOX said it was an apparent error to treat all as insane. There were idiots and epileptics who might be treated together; but as far as the cases of the insane were concerned he thought they should not be treated in Workhouses. He approved of the plan of sending the curables to the Asylum and keeping the chronic cases in the house.

Dr. M'GEE asked if they could send their insane inmates to Larne Workhouse?

Dr. KNOX said he was of opinion they could not. They might send an insane inmate to an Asylum if they agreed to accept him and paid for him.

Dr. NUGENT—You could not send him. (Hear.)

Dr. KNOX said so far as the Poor-laws were concerned, the Guardians might send an insane inmate to an hospital if they

paid for him, and the Governors agreed to receive him ; unless, perhaps, the lunacy laws prevented their receiving them.

Dr. NUGENT said they did.

Mr. GAFFIKIN said that out of the 156 lunatics in the house, there were thirty-seven only belonging to Belfast, if every union had its own.

Mr. A. J. MACRORY said that in the treating of chronic diseases great care should be exercised. He was sorry to hear it said that anything would do them, and that it was those who were likely to be cured that should be considered. Then there was the question as to pay patients. There were three classes—the curable, the chronic, and the pay patients. It was a hard case that a farmer living in the country had to swear himself a pauper before he could get his friend or relatives treated. He believed the Irish establishments for the Insane were better managed than the English, and he thought they should wait to see what they were going to do in England. As to the transfer business, there were many difficulties. It was a fact that the curable were more expensive than the chronic cases, and thus the Asylum would become more expensive by having so large a number of curative patients.

Dr. NUGENT said the impression obtained that the immediate relatives of an insane party should swear the patient to be a pauper to qualify him for admission. There was no such thing. He was admitted if his parent or other party declared that he was not able consistently and faithfully to pay for him. It was not necessary that there should be real poverty ; it was merely a want of sufficient means to support the insane person. It was a very important point. (Hear, hear.) He was quite satisfied that destitution, recognised as the test for reception into a union workhouse, should not be essential with regard to hospitals for the treatment of lunacy—a point easily illustrated. (Hear.) A tenant-farmer, for example, with a family of five or six individuals, may possess, through his own and the untiring industry of his children, a *bona fide* interest of some £60 or £70 a-year in the land he occupies, and for which possibly during a period of thirty years he has been contributing to the support of his district Asylum. Surely it is not equitable, should

Providence at the end of that time afflict his wife or one of his children by the saddest of all bereavements (that of reason), he should be forced to encounter the cost of a private licensed house—say thirty pounds at the lowest—because he is not destitute. If so, however—and, unhappily, not an unknown occurrence—a second member of his family becomes mentally afflicted, the poorhouse awaits all as a final refuge. While, however, the benefits of an asylum ought to be liberally extended, too much care cannot be exercised by the influential Governors who control its fiscal management that the semblance of an abuse be not tolerated, each case for application being investigated on its individual merits. (Hear, hear.)

The MAYOR—That is a most important statement. A more important statement has not been made for some time. (Hear.)

Dr. NUGENT—With regard to another point, you seem to think that the curable cost more than the chronic cases. I may tell you there is no distinction one from another. Regarding the Belfast Workhouse, I may tell you that I have frequently visited it, and it was always a pleasure to me to put down on paper the state in which I found it. It was not at all surprising that the expenses of the dietary should be so large in the house, for he observed that the food was excellent. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MACRORY said that the certificate given for the admission of a patient into the Asylum would lead a person to believe that the applicant for his friend's admission required to declare himself a pauper. He thought the certificate should be altered.

Dr. NUGENT said that could be effected through the Board of Lunacy Commissioners.

The LORD BISHOP said he thought the Guardians should agree as to what course they should pursue before they could carry out any course. They should see whether they were prepared to arrange the expenses of fitting up the school building. In order to have the suggestions of Dr. Nugent practically carried out, they should put their agreement on paper, and present it not as an individual member, but as the opinion of the Board of Guardians.

The MAYOR suggested the meeting should adjourn for the present.

Mr. TAYLOR said he hoped something good would result from the conference with the Governors. The Guardians would consider what they had heard, and as soon as they came to a unanimous opinion on the subject he would communicate with the Mayor.

The Lord Bishop having been called to the second chair, a vote of thanks was passed to the Mayor for his kindness in presiding, and for the interest he had always taken in the subject.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE FOR ONE YEAR,  
BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1866, TO 31ST MARCH, 1867.

THE CHARGE.

Balance last Account in favour of the Public	..	£338	12	11
Received from the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury,	..	..	6,776	8 8
Received for Vegetables and fruit sold,	£13	7	4	
Do. Oats and Wheat sold,..	44	18	11	
Do. Bones and Rags sold, ..	17	10	8	
Do. Hay sold, ..	33	6	11	
Do. Potatoes Sold, ..	4	0	9	
Do. Grazing, ..	5	10	0	
Do. Interest, ..	33	4	1	
Do. Fine on Servant, ..	0	5	0	
		£152	3	8
Balance in favour of the public,	..	..	£7,267	5 3
			£238	8 7

THE DISCHARGE.

Paid for Provisions,	..	£3,525	6	9
Do. Clothing, ..	..	766	5	2
Do. Bedding, ...	..	282	16	5
Do. Furniture,	..	65	4	7
Do. Fuel and Light,	..	491	9	11
Do. Soap and Candles, ..	..	92	4	1
Do. Stationery, Printing, and Periodicals, ..	..	32	15	3
Do. Advertising, ..	..	3	13	4
Do. Medicines, ..	..	26	0	6
Do. Repairs and Alterations, ..	..	272	14	10
Do. Farm and Garden Expenses,	..	65	4	6
Do. Insurance, ..	..	24	12	6
Do. Incidental Expenses,	..	141	17	1
Do. Salaries and Wages,	..	1,234	11	2
Do. Postage, ..	..	4	0	7
Balance on hand,	..	£7,028	16	8
		238	8	7
		£7,267	5	3

# AN ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENDITURE ON AND PRODUCE OF THE LAND OF THE BELFAST DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE FOR ONE YEAR,

BEING FROM 1ST APRIL, 1866, TO 31ST MARCH, 1867.

Dr.		EXPENDITURE.		PRODUCE.		Cr.
To Seed Potatoes,	..	..	£33 6 0	By 25 tons Potatoes used in the Establish-	at 3s. 6d. per cwt.,..	£87 10 0
— Seeds and Plants,	..	..	15 5 7	— Do. sold at various prices,	..	4 0 9
— Spades, Hooks, Shovels, &c.,	..	..	2 11 10	— 5 tons 10 cwt. Oats used in the Estab-	lishment, at 9s 6d per cwt.,..	49 10 0
— Stones,	..	..	2 0 0	— 3 tons 0 cwt. 1 qr. Oats sold, ..	..	25 0 7
— Shoeing Farm Horse,	..	..	2 1 0	— Wheat sold at various prices	..	74 10 7
— Saddlery Work,	..	..	0 12 7	— 10 tons Hay used in the Establishment,	at 3s 6d per cwt. ..	19 19 4
— Repairing and Painting Farm Carts,..	..	..	5 10 0	— Do. Sold, ..	..	35 0 0
— Seed Oats, ..	..	..	2 17 6	— 21 tons Straw used in the Establishment,	Vegetables and Fruit sold, ..	33 6 11
To Balance, ..	..	..	£65 4 6	— Do. used in the Establishment, ..	Manure, valued at ..	13 7 4
			352 10 5	— Osiers, made into Baskets, ..	— Grazing on Ground on River side, ..	50 0 0
						63 7 4
						30 0 0
						1 10 0
						5 10 0
Total	:	..	£417 14 11	Total	..	£417 14 11
				By Balance,	..	£352 10 5

# DIETARY

OF

## The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.

### BREAKFAST.

One quart stirabout (made with 8oz. fine or 7oz. coarse meal and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk),	Males.	} Every Morning.
One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint mixed milk, ... ..	Females.	

### DINNER.

One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), 6oz. solid meat, and one pint soup, ... ..	Males & Females.	} 3 days a-week.
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one quart soup (made with ox-heads and bones cut out of meat, vegetables, oatmeal, barley, peas, &c.,	Males.	
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), and one-and-half pint soup, ... ..	Females.	} 3 days a-week.
Three-fourths of a pound loaf bread (or 3½lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk, ... ..	Males.	
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one pint mixed milk, ... ..	Females.	} 1 day a-week.

### SUPPER.

One half-pound loaf bread and three-fourths of a pint of new milk, ... ..	Males.	} Summer 6 months.
One half-pound loaf bread and one half-pint new milk, ... ..	Females.	
One quart stirabout and three-fourths of a pint new milk, ... ..	Males.	} Winter 6 months.
One-and-half pint stirabout and one half-pint new milk, ... ..	Females.	

\*\*\* Patients who are actively employed are allowed a portion of flesh-meat, in addition to the soup, five instead of three days in the week: When the state of the patient's health requires it, the diet is changed accordingly, and any other substituted that may be considered requisite by the Medical Officers.